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# Torrance Herald

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## FREEHOLDERS COMPLETE CHARTER

### PREPARATIONS FOR SANTA'S VISIT HERE ON DECEMBER 23, INDICATE BIG CELEBRATION

"I'll be in Torrance Wednesday evening, December 23. Hope I'll find all good little boys and girls there to meet me as I've got some great surprises for them."  
"SANTA CLAUS."

When the Fire Department and Chamber of Commerce received that telegram today from that jolly old fellow who is preparing to leave his North Pole home for his annual visit all over the world, they breathed a big sigh of relief.

Santa Claus will POSITIVELY be here with gifts for every youngster in the city the night before his Christmas Eve appearance.

What's Coming?  
Preparations for his reception are now going forward at a rapid pace. Here's what's being done:

(1) The huge Christmas tree in the little park in front of the Torrance Theatre will be festooned with its 1000 lights and gay decorations Saturday and will be illuminated for the first time that night. Incidentally, all residents are urged to decorate the trees in front of their homes to carry out the "out-door Christmas" idea in the city by Saturday night.

(2) On the afternoon of December 23, at 3 o'clock, a free dog and pony show will be held on the platform that will be erected next to the Bank of Italy on Marcelina avenue. Every child in Torrance and vicinity is cordially invited to attend this show, which will feature the smallest horse in the world and J. E. Kennedy's trained pats. Some novel contests will also be staged. This program will be given under the auspices of the Merchants' division of the Chamber of Commerce, according to Harry Dolley, chairman.

To Prevent Any Jams  
(3) And then the big Christmas celebration Wednesday evening, December 23, beginning promptly at 7 o'clock. A short, pleasant program, last about 20 minutes or half-hour will be given by the various churches of the city; Yuletide songs will be sung by the audience and children and then—Santa Claus, himself and in person, will distribute the gifts to every boy and girl present.

This program is under the direction of the Fire Department, with A. D. Stevenson, Roy Winters and William Neff, the committee in charge. The department will request the aid of the American Legion and local Boy Scout troops to maintain order and prevent crowding. A plan is being worked out that will eliminate much of the delay in Santa's presentation of the gifts and also to assure every youngster of receiving his share of the presents. The gifts will include candy, nuts, apples and toys.

**CHRISTMAS LIGHTS HELD  
BIG YULETIDE ATTRACTION**  
"Christmas Out-of-Doors" is the slogan which will call attention to every Southern California resident to the opportunity of decorating his lawn shrubbery and trees with the brilliantly colored electric lights.

### Chain of Labor Will Help To Solve Unemployed Problem Here

By the United Press  
The State of California is moving to aid Torrance and other cities to solve their unemployment problem.

A chain of labor camps, where free board and meals will be offered to single men in exchange for work in constructing firebreaks and fire trails, will soon be in full operation.

The purpose of this plan is twofold: It will remove unemployed men from breadlines and soup kitchens in the cities, and guard against the recurrence of the disastrous forest fire experience in California this year.

**Forest Service Supervises**  
The men chosen by Governor Rolph to direct the establishment and management of these camps are Roland A. Vandegriff, state director of finance; W. B. Rider, deputy state forester; and S. B. Black, secretary of the California Forest Protective association.

"The U. S. forest service and the state division of forestry will each detail 50 men to supervise these camps," says Vandegriff. "In addition, both state and federal forest services are lending housing, cooking and working equipment."

"We understand that county foresters have also a large amount

### Bloody - Bang! Judge Gets Rabbit

Gather 'round, lads n' lassies, while your Judge Rippy tells you about his hunting trip Monday with that nice motor cop, Bill Mallin, and friend, John Buck.

"We went up into Mint Canyon. We saw one rabbit. Blooey-blooey, went Bill's and John's shotguns and bang! went my rifle. I got the rabbit. No—we didn't see another thing all day!"

The rabbit, wounded from shotgun blasts, dashed into a bush. When he poked his head out, the judge flung him an extraordinary feat when you consider that the judge is used to dealing with half-shot victims!

### Yule Play at School Tomorrow

The boys and girls who have participated in playground activities this season are presenting a play, "The Birds' Christmas Carol," in the Elementary school auditorium Friday afternoon. The play is in charge of Miss Alice Carothers. The character parts are:

Mr. Bird, Carl Andrews; Mrs. Bird, Geraldine Bradford; Carol Bird, Peggy Olson; Alfreda, Betty Wright; Mrs. Ruggles, Edna Stair; Larry, Howard Andrews; Kitty, Pauline Austin; Peter, Robert Rauss; Sarah Maud, Betty Irwin; Peoria, Rosemary Mason; Clem, Alanson Mason; Cornelius, Marie Turner, and the butler, Robert Tigar.

The warmth of the Yuletide spirit and the glow of Christmas cheer will be joyfully expressed as these pupils portray the characters of Kate Douglas Wiggin's beautiful story. Parents of pupils in Torrance schools are invited.

### MORE LIGHT IN BUSINESS DIST. ASKED

**Festive Yule Spirit Will Be  
Increased By Full  
Illumination**

With the Christmas shopping rush steadily gaining in volume here, Chamber of Commerce directors voted to ask the city council to turn on all ornamental street lights in the business district from dusk to 10 o'clock in order to add a measure of Yuletide cheer to the decorated windows of the various merchants.

The council is expected to take action on the request next Tuesday night. As no municipal plan of street decoration was instituted here, it is felt that the additional lighting will not be an additional cost and that it would assist in carrying out the Christmas festive spirit of the thronging shoppers, the business houses and the general appearance of the district.

### Swing Asks For Oil Embargo To Assist Industry

Congressman Phil D. Swing of the Eleventh California Congressional District moved on the opening day of Congress for an oil embargo to protect the oil industry of California, according to reports received by the Herald this week.

He proposes that the embargo be sufficiently broad to afford relief to the producer and distributor in building up and maintaining a substantial market. A survey which Congressman Swing has just completed, reveals that conditions which have brought about great unemployment in the California oil industry are traceable to foreign oil competition.

The measure will be pressed for early enactment into law.

### Time For Those New Auto Plates



**CALIFORNIA MOTORISTS MUST dig down again for their 1932 automobile licenses soon. Official "license time" begins throughout the state December 15. Here is Betty Clear of the California State Automobile Association with an assortment of the new numbers—black lettering on an orange background. The name "California" spelled out is a feature.**

### New Herald Reporter Will "Ride Herd" On Column of Real Arizonian Ranch Lore

Wall, folks, th' Herald's right proud to interjue to its friends, Miss Duette Hill, our new reporter poet, who's a-go-in' to tell you all about th' "Doin's of th' Flyin' Buzzard" an' its cow-punchers. Step right up an' take a bow, Miss Hill!

That's nice... now we'll tell th' folks about yourself an' break th' news as to what they're a-go-in' to find in these here pages every week from now on. But first, not havin' what yuh might call a speakin' acquaintance with a cow—outside of a steak now an' then, we'd better chuck this manner o' speakin' and knock yuh down to Miss Hill in regular newspaper language.

**Niece of Governor**  
Although she has been a resident of Lomita for the past four years, Miss Hill is a native of Pleasant Valley—the scene, incidentally, of Zane Grey's novel, "The Last Man." She is niece of Governor G. W. P. Hunt, who is serving his 28th year in office.

Every fall, Miss Hill goes back to the range and gets material for her stories, poems and incidents of real western ranch life. She has just returned from such an expedition and brings to the Herald a collection of authentic episodes, sayings and original verses which should prove interesting to all readers. Here is the first of Miss Hill's contributions under the heading they will carry in the Herald from now on:



Th' beef's all skinned n' th' horses all shod, on th' old Flyin' Buzzard ranch.

There's a big line o' jerky, lots o' beans, flour, coffee n' prunes for chuck n' old Forty, th' Cook, has to eat his own cookin' with just one tooth in his head.

Dogie Cy sez there's always (Continued on Page 4-A)

### Raindrops Spatter Dollars to Growers

That "million-dollar" rain Tuesday gave the city 1.07 inches of welcome wetness, according to reports from the High school weather watchers. Rainfall to date this season totals 2.85 inches. Last year this date only 1.66 of rain had been recorded.

**LOMITA DRENCHED**  
LOMITA—Rainfall here Tuesday amounted to 1.87 inches. For the season Lomita has had 3.14 inches. The state road crew on Redondo boulevard had to go up and retire to shelter. The fruit and produce growers sat by the fire and listened to the downpour, the raindrops just singing dollars 'n' dollars to them!

### Aqueduct Bonds Are Legalized

As far as the Metropolitan Water District is concerned, the \$220,000, 000 bond issue for the construction of the Metropolitan aqueduct from the Colorado River to Southern California coastal cities—including Torrance—has been validated and the issue is legal.

A Superior Court decree handed down Tuesday was signed to legalize the bonds. According to the special statute governing the formation of the district, this certification after a hearing makes the bonds valid without further action in higher courts.

Opposition by taxpayers, or others, such as J. E. Burney of Long Beach, who maintained an action against the bonds in the Superior Court, may be carried to the Supreme Court, if such appeal is made in 30 days, or by January 7. Whether such action will be taken is uncertain, it was reported today.

### Legion Baskets In Stores Take Any Foodstuffs

**One Week's Collection Has  
Five Sacks Potatoes,  
\$20 of Food**

You've noticed those baskets in the local food stores—yawning to receive whatever foodstuffs you may drop into them at the suggestion of the American Legion—well, did you know that five 100-pound sacks of potatoes and more than \$20 worth of canned, package and staple food was given the Torrance Relief Society yesterday from those baskets?

That fine supply of food was just one week's collection by the American Legion. The potatoes were donated by an unknown woman resident who happened to see a food basket at Woodburn's Grocery on Cabrillo avenue. Every imaginable article of food was included in the collection.

Legion men are delighted at the response of residents to their basket-idea and, needless to say, the Relief Society deeply appreciates the opportunity to distribute the collection to those whose need is ever present. Don't forget those baskets—fill 'em up!

### Deep Test Well Is Reported Due

At press time this afternoon, the Higgins Brothers' deep test well, known as the Hamelin Lease No. 1, on Palm avenue in South Torrance, was showing increasing potentialities as a high-gravity producer with every swab.

Each clean-out thrust forced longer "breathing" periods after the swab had come up and the atmosphere around the hole was becoming denser among the increasing crowd. Tests made today show that the oil coming up with the swab is 23 gravity and there is every indication that the well will come in within the next 48 hours.

### PEOPLE TO VOTE ON ORGANIC LAW OF TORRANCE, APRIL 11

**Citizens Have More Than Three Months To  
Study Proposed Constitution; Five  
Most Important Points Told**

The proposed city charter was formally presented in its complete form to City Clerk Bartlett this afternoon by Judge C. T. Rippy, chairman of the board of 15 freeholders who drafted the document.

Electors of Torrance will vote on its adoption at the general election, Monday, April 11, 1932.

Bartlett will present the charter to the city council next Tuesday night. It is expected that the council then will order it published at once and that copies be printed in pamphlet form for distribution to all interested citizens.

**Has Four Salient Points**  
Copies will be available at the city clerk's office and voters will have more than three months in which to study the proposed constitutional law of the city in detail.

"This instrument, which has taken the 15 freeholders 171 days to prepare, has five salient points, according to Judge Rippy. He said today that, in his opinion, these most important divisions are as follows:

(1) The creation of a Torrance school district, with the control, administration and management of all schools located within the city limits under a Torrance Board of Education elected by the people, and serving without pay.

(2) A change in the form of councilmanic government. Under the charter, councilmen will be nominated from five districts and will be elected at large. The mayor will have a veto power and will be presiding officer of the council. He will be chief executive officer of the city and will have general supervision of all departments.

(3) Legislative, executive and judicial powers in the city will all be distinct and independent divisions of government and administration.

(4) The financial structure of the city will be established on a strictly cash basis. A "three-cent cash basis" fund is to be created from municipal taxes which will prevent any such thing as a registered warrant ever being issued in the city when the fund is once operating.

(5) Perhaps the most important factor in the charter is that it is so drawn as to permit this municipality to continue to operate under the general state laws applicable to cities in this state unless or except a different procedure has been provided by the charter or city ordinance.

"Of course these are not the only important points in the charter," Rippy said. "We have tried to incorporate in the document an progress."  
(Continued on Page 3-A)

### Christmas Tree Harvest, Now On, Improves Forests, Official Says

By the United Press  
It's time to harvest the annual Christmas tree crop from the forests of California. Approximately 750,000 evergreens will be used for Yuletide decorations this year.

But if you think that the cutting of these trees is devastating the state's forests, save your sympathy. W. B. Rider, deputy state forester, says: "The incidence of forest fires in July and let the children have their fun at Christmas."

A cigarette carelessly tossed from an automobile by a motorist may destroy many times the number of trees cut for the Christmas trade, and every summer there are at least three or four fires in California that burn more trees than are sold for Yule decorations, Rider says.

**Improves Forests**  
With the true heart of a forester, Rider does not condone promiscuous cutting of Christmas trees under any circumstances. He would be the first to prosecute these forest vandals. But at the same time he refuses to become alarmed at the number of trees moved from the Sierra and coast ranges.

"In the first place," he says,

"cutting trees for Christmas is a legitimate use of our forests. In the second place, discriminate cutting of trees, removing only those which have become stunted or have no chance to develop, would actually improve the condition of forests."

**Regulation Removes Evil**  
"The commercial loss is comparatively small, because the silver tip and white fir, which are the favorite Christmas trees, do not develop into a high class lumber stand."

"The evil of our present system is the absence of discrimination in cutting on private lands. In our national forests, only those trees tagged by expert foresters as having no chance in life, may be cut. But on private land, there

(Continued on Page 2-A)